involves adoption of a number of measures aimed at abolition of existing barriers to free circulation of goods, services, people and capital within the Community. Since most of the measures are yet to be adopted by the EEC, exact impact of these on India's exports to the EEC cannot be gauged accurately.

(b) As per figures available from DGCI&S, the trade deficit with EEC during the last three years has been as follows:

(Rs. crores)

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88 (Prov.)
India's exports to EEC	1928-57	2803.71	3954.94
India's imports from EEC	;5233.72	6541.53	7430.63
Trade Deficit.....	3305.15	3737 82	3475.69

The main reason for the trade deficit is that EEC has been a source of essential commodities as well as other critical items like iron & steel products, sugar, fertilizers petroleum products, machinery, etc.

Stoppage of recruitment in the Indian Economic Service

860. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEEN A VERMA:
PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indian Economic Service was created and what is its present strength and whether further recruitment has been stopped; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether any cadre review has been carried out since the inception of the service, if not, what are the reasons therefor; and what are the promotional avenues for these officers; and

(c) what was the purpose of creating this cadre and how far this has been fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Indian Economic Service (IES) was constituted in 1961. At present, its actual strength is 559. Recruitment to Service has been deferred owing to the stagnation [delay in promotion for direct recruits after the implementation of Supreme Court judgement in case No. 1595179 decided in February, 1986.

(b) Several measuress have been taken to improve promotion prospects in the service. Amongst the significant measures are upgradation of posts from Grade III level to Grade I level, merger of Grade I and Grade II levels by upgradation of the latter, strengthening of middle and top level by encadrement of additional poss, and decision to encadre posts above Junior Administrative Grade level. Proposal to restructure the cadre by further augmentation of middle and top levels has also been considered by the Indian Economic Service bo ard.

(c) The Service was constituted with the objective of having a cadre of officers who could collect, collate and disseminate information and tender advice on economic matters. Members of the service are perform-ing these tasks.